

ASSEMBLY, No. 4377

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman R. BRUCE LAND

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Assemblywoman BETTYLOU DECROCE

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Freiman, A.M.Bucco, Auth, Thomson and Assemblywoman McKnight

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOT and OIT to develop materials concerning capabilities of airports in NJ and establishes "Public Use Airports Task Force."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/13/2019)

1 AN ACT concerning New Jersey airports and supplementing
2 P.L.1938, c.48 (C.6:1-20 et seq.).
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*
6

7 1. a. The Bureau of Aeronautics in the Department of
8 Transportation, in conjunction with geographic information systems
9 staff from the Office of Information Technology, shall, within 180
10 days of enactment of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
11 Legislature as this bill), produce a comprehensive and current
12 directory of airports in New Jersey. The bureau and the Office of
13 Information Technology shall produce the directory in print and
14 electronic formats and develop an accompanying mobile application
15 for the directory. The directory shall include maps and information
16 on the capabilities of each airport and landing facility in this State.

17 b. The bureau shall update the directory produced pursuant to
18 this section at least once every five years.
19

20 2. a. There is established in the Bureau of Aeronautics in the
21 Department of Transportation the Public Use Airports Task Force.

22 b. The task force shall be comprised of 15 members, as
23 follows:

24 (1) two members of the Senate Transportation Committee,
25 appointed by the Senate President, and two members of the
26 Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee,
27 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, and no more
28 than one appointment from each committee shall be of the same
29 political party;

30 (2) the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of
31 Education's designee; and

32 (3) the following members appointed by the Governor:

33 (a) one public member with a background in higher education
34 administration;

35 (b) one public member who is a representative of the New
36 Jersey School Boards Association;

37 (c) one public member who is a representative of the New
38 Jersey Education Association;

39 (d) one public member with a background as a high school
40 guidance counselor;

41 (e) one public member who holds a flight instructor certificate
42 issued by the Federal Aviation Administration;

43 (f) one public member who holds a mechanic certificate, with
44 airframe and powerplant privileges, issued by the Federal Aviation
45 Administration;

46 (g) one public member who is an attorney with expertise in the
47 aerospace industry;

1 (h) one public member who is a personnel recruiter for an
2 airline;

3 (i) one public member who has served as a recruiter for a
4 branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

5 (j) one public member who is a senior member of the New
6 Jersey Wing of the Civil Air Patrol of the United States Air Force.

7 c. In making appointments to the task force, the Senate
8 President, Speaker of the General Assembly, and Governor shall
9 give priority to individuals who hold an airmen certification issued
10 by the Federal Aviation Administration. All appointments shall be
11 made within 30 days of the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
12 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). Vacancies in the
13 membership shall be filled in the same manner as the original
14 appointments.

15 d. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable after the
16 appointment of a majority of its members, and may meet and hold
17 hearings at such places and times as it shall designate.

18 e. The members of the task force shall serve without
19 compensation but may be reimbursed, within the limits of funds
20 made available to the task force, for necessary travel expenses
21 incurred in the performance of their duties.

22 f. The department shall provide professional and clerical staff
23 to the task force as may be necessary for the task force's purposes,
24 and the task force shall also be entitled to call upon the services of
25 any State, county, or municipal department, board, commission, or
26 agency, as may be available to it for its purposes.

27 g. In executing its duties under section 3 of P.L. ,
28 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the task
29 force may consult with associations, organizations, and individuals
30 who are knowledgeable about the topics and industries evaluated by
31 and subject to the recommendations of the task force.

32 h. The task force may solicit and receive grants and other funds
33 that are made available for the task force's purposes by any
34 governmental, public, private, not-for-profit, or for-profit agency,
35 including funds that are made available under any federal or State
36 law, regulation, or program.

37

38 3. a. The Public Use Airports Task Force established pursuant
39 to section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
40 as this bill) shall:

41 (1) evaluate the existing operations of public use airports in this
42 State, including projections for continued operational sustainability
43 of public use airports based upon current and expected market
44 conditions;

45 (2) develop recommendations for infrastructure initiatives and
46 transit programs to meet current and expected market demand for
47 different classifications of aircraft and air transport components;

- 1 (3) develop recommendations for policy changes to support the
2 continued operation of public use airports in this State, including,
3 but not limited to, recommendations for changes to tax structures,
4 changes to State and political subdivision regulation of public use
5 airports, the alteration of current State programs, and the
6 development of new programs to ensure the continued sustainability
7 of public use airports in New Jersey;
- 8 (4) develop State and local strategies and recommendations for
9 growing aerospace industry sectors in the State and ensuring the
10 economic viability of public use airports in New Jersey, including
11 through the education and training of new pilots;
- 12 (5) complete a survey of successful educational programs, that
13 meet or exceed applicable federal requirements, for the training of
14 new pilots and aerospace industry mechanics;
- 15 (6) develop recommendations to expand pilot training and
16 incentivize aerospace innovation in this State;
- 17 (7) develop recommendations for the establishment of new
18 education programs, flight training programs, and aerospace
19 internships in this State to contribute to the sustainability and
20 expansion of public use airports and the aerospace industry in this
21 State;
- 22 (8) develop recommendations, including specific mechanisms,
23 for the State, local governments, educational institutions, and
24 industry stakeholders to share information and collaborate to
25 expand research and development within the aerospace industry in
26 this State;
- 27 (9) develop recommendations for specific initiatives to increase
28 investment and public interest in aviation and the aerospace
29 industry in this State;
- 30 (10) evaluate the current operations and performance of the
31 Bureau of Aeronautics in the oversight of the State's public use
32 airports, and develop recommendations for the reorganization or
33 realignment of the bureau;
- 34 (11) analyze the current assurance requirements imposed by the
35 Federal Aviation Administration on owners, sponsors, planning
36 organizations, and other organizations that accept funds from
37 certain financial assistance programs administered by the Federal
38 Aviation Administration, and develop recommendations to increase
39 the amounts of federal assistance received by public use airports in
40 this State;
- 41 (12) study, with the assistance of the Department of Education
42 and the New Jersey State Library, the potential for establishing a
43 coordinated State program that accurately represents the
44 development and importance of the State's airport and aviation
45 heritage;
- 46 (13) develop and disseminate recommendations and strategies
47 that public use airports in this State can utilize to realize cost-

1 savings and operational efficiencies through the development and
2 deployment of environmentally responsible, modular infrastructure;

3 (14) study, with the assistance of the Department of Higher
4 Education, the potential and cost expectations for the development
5 of an enhanced aerospace transportation navigation system for the
6 State's public use airports, that includes object avoidance
7 technology and technology for monitoring weather and air traffic;

8 (15) develop recommendations, tools, and strategies to help
9 ensure the adequate financing of aerospace businesses, flying clubs,
10 and flight schools in this State, without regard for operational or
11 organizational structure under federal or State law; and

12 (16) develop recommendations to assist the continued
13 advancement of public use airports as community assets and
14 sources of business expansion in this State.

15 b. The task force shall present a report of its findings and
16 recommendations to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of
17 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature no later than 12
18 months after the organization of the task force.

19
20 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

21 22 23 STATEMENT

24
25 This bill concerns airports in New Jersey and establishes a
26 temporary Public Use Airports Task Force (task force).

27 Under the bill, the Bureau of Aeronautics (bureau) in the
28 Department of Transportation, in conjunction with geographic
29 information systems staff from the Office of Information
30 Technology, is required to produce a comprehensive and current
31 directory of airports in New Jersey in print, electronic, and mobile
32 application formats. The bill requires that the directory include
33 maps of and information on the capabilities of each airport and
34 landing facility in this State. The bill also requires the bureau to
35 update the directory at least once every five years.

36 The bill also establishes the task force within the bureau. The
37 task force is to be composed of 15 members, as described in the
38 bill. The task force is required to evaluate, survey, analyze, and
39 study various aspects of the operation and value of public use
40 airports and evaluate the continued development of the aviation and
41 aerospace industries in the State. The task force is also required to
42 develop certain recommendations for the advancement of public use
43 airports, flight training, and the aviation and aerospace industries in
44 the State. The task force is further required to present a report of its
45 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature
46 no later than 12 months after the organization of the task force.